

CITY OF OWOSSO
REGULAR MEETING OF THE CITY COUNCIL
MINUTES SYNOPSIS
MONDAY, OCTOBER 01, 2012

Present: Mayor Benjamin R. Frederick, Mayor Pro-Tem Cindy S. Popovitch,
Councilpersons Thomas B. Cook, Michael J. Erfourth, Christopher T. Eveleth,
and Burton D. Fox.

Absent: Councilperson Loreen F. Bailey.

A moment of silence was held for Owosso High School student Andrew Rehmann who had recently passed away.

SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS

Curwood Festival Donation. Curwood Festival Treasurer Jason Nequist was on hand to present the City with a \$1,000 donation from the Festival to be used toward maintenance of Curwood Castle.

Building & Code Enforcement Presentation. Building Official Charles Rau gave a presentation on the duties and responsibilities of the Building Office and Code Enforcement and the progress that has been made during his first 9 months in office.

PUBLIC HEARINGS

None.

CITIZEN COMMENTS AND QUESTIONS

Dave Acton, Splash Pad Committee member, was on hand to provide an update on the progress of the splash pad. He acknowledged the process has been very slow but attributed that to the lack of an established DEQ permitting process for the modular splash pad they are proposing and the fact that all the work was being completed by volunteers. He said the group would be meeting with the DEQ again on Wednesday and they were hopeful a permit would be issued and construction could begin.

Homer Bennett II of Corunna introduced himself as a candidate for County Drain Commissioner saying he opposed the proposed Misteguay Creek project.

Gary Bellinger thanked the City for putting up the street signs that he requested previously. He went on to relay his concerns about residents that do not shovel their walks during the winter, his opinion the City should purchase a second street sweeper. Lastly he asked that a plain clothes police officer be posted near his home to ensure the safety of people crossing Stewart Street. Councilperson Fox said he had met with the Landlords' Association over the weekend and inquired whether Council was interested in setting the agenda for the 5th Monday this month as a discussion with the landlords regarding their concerns with the rental inspection process. He also spoke about a letter he received from a resident on Mallard Circle as to why the City does not plow the street.

There was a discussion as to why the City does not plow Mallard Circle. It was noted the infrastructure constructed by the developer was not up to specifications and the City was unable to accept it as such. The developer agreed to make repairs but has not done so to date. Until such time as the repairs are completed the street will remain private and the City will not maintain it.

Mayor Pro-Tem Popovitch mentioned an email from former City Engineer Ronald Baker inquiring why the City had chosen not to specially assess the residents along North Chipman Street for the work being done there. Staff follow-up on this topic was planned.

Councilperson Eveleth noted he had spoken to Tonya Schlaud of the Body Shop regarding her concerns with the Farmers Market saying the Market Masters were working with her to address her concerns.

CITY MANAGER REPORT

Assistant City Manager Zettel noted that City Manager Crawford was attending the ICMA Conference and would be out of the office for the next two weeks. He went on to detail some of the items on the evening's agenda. He also noted that Community Policing Officer Doug Stanhope had organized an anti-bullying event at the High School to be held October 19th from

8:45 to 10:45 a.m. He encouraged elected officials to attend the event and show their support for anti-bullying efforts.

There was discussion regarding why the Castle was not getting a new phone and the status of the web site update. It was noted the Castle did not have internet access and therefore was not going to be getting a new VOIP phone. Council sought assurances the Castle would be provided with phone service. Assistant City Manager Zettel noted he hoped the new web site would be rolled out within a month. He indicated he would be happy to forward the address of the development site so that Council could preview it.

CONSENT AGENDA

The Consent Agenda was approved as follows:

Set Public Hearing – Personal Property Exemption. A public hearing was set for October 15, 2012 to receive public comments on New Personal Property Exemption for Machine Tool & Gear, Inc, 401 South Chestnut Street.

Set Public Hearing - Industrial Facilities Exemption Certificate. A public hearing was set for October 15, 2012 to receive citizen comment regarding the application of Machine Tool & Gear, Inc. for an Industrial Facilities Exemption Certificate for real property improvements at 401 South Chestnut Street.

Owosso Palooza Permission. This item was moved to Item of Business #2.

Zombie Walk Permission. This item was moved to Item of Business #3.

Phone System Lease. Approved contract with Key Government Finance for the lease of a VOIP phone system for City facilities in the amount of \$26,256.84 annually for a period of 5 years.

Change Order & Payment Authorization – Sidewalk Replacement Program. Authorized Change Order #1 to the contract with Seifert Construction Company for the 2012 Sidewalk Replacement Program for approximately 550 additional square feet of sidewalk in the amount of \$874.35 and further authorized payment up to that amount.

Bid Award – Street Patches. Approved the low bid of One-Way Asphalt Paving & Excavating, Inc. for the 2012 Street Patch Program in the amount of \$14,216.00, and further approved payment up to the contract amount.

Purchase Authorization – Claw. Waived competitive bidding requirements and authorized purchase of one Tink C-721 claw with JRB Coupler from sole source provider AIS Construction Equipment Corporation in the amount of \$15,400.00.

Warrant No. 449. Approved Warrant No. 449 as presented.

ITEMS OF BUSINESS

Property Sale. Approved the sale of the City-owned property located at 1409 West Main Street to the Shiawassee Homebuilders Association in the amount of \$1.00 with the covenant the property be rehabilitated and marketed for sale to the general public within 6 months of acquisition.

Owosso Palooza Permission. After some discussion regarding the insurance requirement the Council approved the application of Baker College of Owosso for use of Main Street Plaza, Town Square Park and three parking spaces in the 100 block of South Washington Street from 2:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. Thursday, October 11, 2012 for their annual Owosso Palooza event, waived the insurance requirement, and authorized Traffic Control Order No. 1280 formalizing the action.

Zombie Walk Permission. Approved the application of John Wracon for use of City sidewalks for a fund raiser walk benefitting the American Red Cross on October 27, 2012 from 3:30 pm until 6:30 pm. The planned walk would utilize the following route: Comstock parking lot to North Washington Street, north on Washington to Main, west on Main to Cedar, crossing Main at Cedar, east on Main to Ball, north on Ball to Exchange, east on Exchange to Washington and south on Washington returning to the Comstock lot. The applicant further received a waiver of the insurance requirement and authorization of Traffic Control Order No. 1281 formalizing the action.

COMMUNICATIONS

Downtown Development Authority/Main Street. Minutes of September 5, 2012.

Parks & Recreation Commission. Minutes of September 24, 2012.

CITIZEN COMMENTS AND QUESTIONS

There were no citizen comments.

Mayor Frederick congratulated Councilperson Erfourth on being named the Ultimate Spartan contest and raising money for Ele's Place.

Councilperson Cook noted the Community Players Street Party to be held Thursday the 4th on Park Street next to the theater to celebrate the beginning of the interior restoration efforts. Councilperson Fox inquired as to the consensus about holding a 5th Monday meeting to meet with the Landlords' Association. The general consensus was to approach the issue in a fashion similar to that of the discussions with the Realtors' Association by holding a meeting of Association leadership, City staff and Council representatives. Mayor Frederick asked for another report on the progress of the rental inspection program similar to that provided last year. Councilperson Erfourth thanked everyone that donated to the fund raising efforts for Ele's Place and helped him win the Ultimate Spartan Challenge.

NEXT MEETING

Monday, October 15, 2012

BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS OPENINGS

Zoning Board of Appeals – Alternate, term expiring June 30, 2013

Shiawassee District Library Board, term expiring June 30, 2016

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 9:05 p.m.

Benjamin R. Frederick, Mayor
Amy K. Kirkland, City Clerk

Note: Complete printed copies of the minutes and any ordinances contained therein are available to the public at the Office of the City Clerk and the Shiawassee District Library – Owosso Branch during regular business hours or on the Internet at www.ci.owosso.mi.us.